ऋण मंजूर करने के लिए खाद्य मंत्रालय के पास गुजरात में स्थित किसी चीनी उद्यम के विस्तार से सम्बन्धित कोई प्रस्ताव लम्बित नहीं है ।

(ग) भारतीय औद्योगिक वित्त निगम और राष्ट्रीय सहकारी विकास निगम ने सूचित किया है कि विस्तार के लिए ऋण की मंजूरी हेतु उन्हें दक्षिण गुजरात में स्थित किसी चीनी फैक्ट्री से कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है ।

(घ) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

Proposal for Stock Holding Limit on Wheat and Rice

1542. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state. :

(a) whether the Central Government have made any proposal to the States for delicensing trading in wheat and removing liberalising the stock holding limits on wheat and rice ;

(b) If so, what is the reaction of the States to these proposals; and

(c) what specific benefits are expected to be derived from implementation of these proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In pursuance of the decision on delicensing of wheat, only the Government of Meghalaya has so far issued the necessary notification. The Government of Orissa has informed that they are not in favour of delicensing wheat keeping in view certain local conditions. However, they have been requested to reconsider the matter.

Regarding abolition of stock-limits on wheat and rice, only the Govts. of West Bengal and Manipur have since issued the necessary notifications. In the States of Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Kerala, Gujarat, Orissa and the Union Territory of Chandigarh, there were no stock limits on wheat and rice earlier.

(c) The various regulatory measures on foodgrains trade were introduced at a time of shortage of availability of foodgrains in the country. The situation has undergone a drastic change since then and it is no longer considered necessary to continue some of the regulatory measures

Decontrol of Sugar

1543. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Sugar Manufacturers' Association has urged Government to immediately decontrol the sugar ;

(b) if so, whether the production of sugar and its availability at a reasonable price would be considered before decontrolling sugar; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All implications of the proposal will be duly considered.

(c) At present, the Government does not propose to decontrol sugar.

Production and Export of Rice

1544. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the rice production in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the details of various new varieties of rice evolved during the period and their effect on production and exports ;

(c) whether it is a fact that India is a traditional basmati rice exporter yet it suffers from a number of problems in exports; if so, what are they; and

(d) the steps being taken to remove them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (d) The production of rice in the country during the last 3 crop years (July-June) is as follows :

(Figs. in Million Tonnes)

Years	Production
1991-92	74.68
1992-93	72.61
1993-94	79.01 (Likely)

Details of varieties of rice released in the year 1991, 1992 and 1993 are enclosed in Annexures [*See* Appendix 172, Annexure No. 36].